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ment subject to the will of the people and Imperialism founded on force. And if we must fight, we shall have at least the satisfaction of standing shoulder to shoulder with democratic England and with the gallant sons of France in the most holy of wars for civilization and humanity, and of realizing that the cries of the dying did not rise from the sinking ships to Heaven and to America in vain."

And when we say "democratic England" let us not forget to add "democratic France" as well—France, to whom we are indebted for the Democracy under which it is our good fortune to live here to-day in our beloved America. Doubtless many Americans read with hearty approval the remarks of a recent speaker with reference to our great debt of gratitude of France, and especially to our own Lafayette, for he is ours as much as are any of the splendid men in blue and buff of the American Revolution.

And why in the name of all that is consistent and fitting, if we have a general holiday in honor of Columbus, have we not a holiday in honor of the one man of all the men of all the nations of Europe to whom we owe the highest honor and veneration? To be sure, the French vote is not so large here as is the Italian, but why must we *always* mix gutter politics with our sentiment?

J. M. L.

ST. PAUL, MINN.

A TEXAS VIEW OF MEXICO'S TRAGEDY

SIR,—It was with more than ordinary interest that I read your "Tragedy of Mexico" in the September NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW.

My expectation and full belief is that good will come from it, and I hope that you will continue to the end on that line. The able way you presented the facts and portrayed the situation is truly refreshing. The great press of the North, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, has taken your editorial for a text and given your views the widest circulation.

There is no one who had a more sincere admiration for the President than the writer, yet we must pause to consider with astonishment when such outrages and persistent blunders have been and are being made, at the present moment, in the Mexican trouble. We, as good American people, should let the Mexicans operate their Government in their own way without outside interference.

There are just three things in this Mexican matter that our country should consider—two in retrospect:

First, there would not have been any successful revolution against Diaz had it not been for assistance from the Texas border,—the furnishing of men, arms and ammunition, to Madero.

Second, at this time peace would have been restored in Mexico had it not been for President Wilson's making and continuing war on Huerta,—a personal war,—aiding and abetting gangs of bandits, murderers and thieves.

Third, there is no need of our intervening in Mexico now, or any time in the past. The solution is simple, so far as our country is concerned. It is for our country to say "Hands off!" and permit the Mexican people to do their business in their own way. Then order and government will be restored without delay.

It is our country's action in meddling in their affairs, giving encouragement and aid to the various bands of bandits outraging Mexico that is prolonging and increasing the "Tragedy of Mexico."

Think of it!—Here in El Paso there are fifteen thousand or more of the owners of Mexico, who have had to flee from their country to save their lives, leaving their property and homes, now confiscated by those robber bands to which our country furnishes arms and ammunition without stint, which is paid for from stolen property. At the same time, these owners of Mexico are denounced as "Cientificos," a term of derision, because they have some education and wealth.

El Paso has grown more during the past five years than in the previous twenty-five. In this recent era of prosperity the banks have doubled in number, with ten times the deposits. Some of them, or all, have side issues or departments handling Villa and Carranza "money."

Just prior to the appearance of your "Tragedy of Mexico," a well defined plan was laid (reaching from New York and centering in El Paso) to have Villa's man of straw—who would be Villa, to all purposes—named as provisional President, and to saddle these several hundred million dollars of Villa and Carranza "money" as a debt or obligation on Mexico; to validate such of this paper as the combination held, and declare the balance "counterfeit." This paper, when any is sold, is one-fifth to one cent on the dollar, handled by the package in armfuls. They are printed in large denominations,—500 or 1,000 dollars. It was less expense to print and less trouble to count in thousands than in ten-dollar bills.

The name "American" is disliked and distrusted by the people of Mexico, and rightly so. They cannot well make a distinction between the disposition of the people on the Texas border and that of the people largely composing the American nation. This dislike and enmity has been greatly advanced by our President's using the Federal forces practically to intern the best and most responsible citizens of Mexico, at the same time giving the bandits and their representatives free hand to come and go at pleasure.

Nothing could have incensed the Mexican people against our Government more than the arresting and imprisoning of Huerta, and throwing him into that notoriously vile and dirty jail at El Paso, when the thermometer was above one hundred, and keeping him there for two weeks without his having shown a particle of guilt on any charge. Nothing could have added more to the popularity of Huerta than this travesty. In obtaining his arrest, there was a well defined plan to have him turned over to the bandit gangs now in charge of Mexico, under a specious treaty between Mexico and Texas. Both Villa and Carranza made application to have Huerta extradited, but this was a little too "raw," and the plan was not carried out. The files of the El Paso *Times*, under dates following Huerta's arrest, will give the data on this latter point.

EL PASO, TEXAS.

T. M. MICHAEL.

WHAT THE TRUTH ABOUT MEXICO IS WORTH

SIR,—Hurrah for the September number! The truth about Mexico is alone worth a year's subscription. For the last thirty months the strain on some of us inarticulate fellows, who knew the truth and realized what was going on, has been awful to think about.